



# THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Founded in 1931

MAY 2018  
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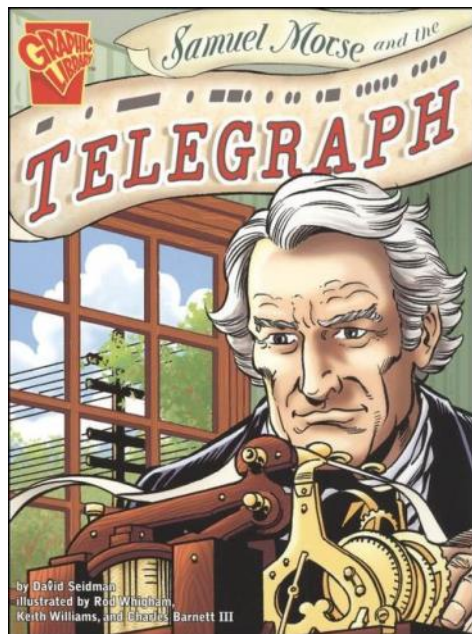
## OLD TIMER'S NIGHT

TIM GUYOT, KB1POP, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

Our next meeting is our annual "Old Timer's Night" and Ed Gable K2MP will be presenting on behalf of the AWA.

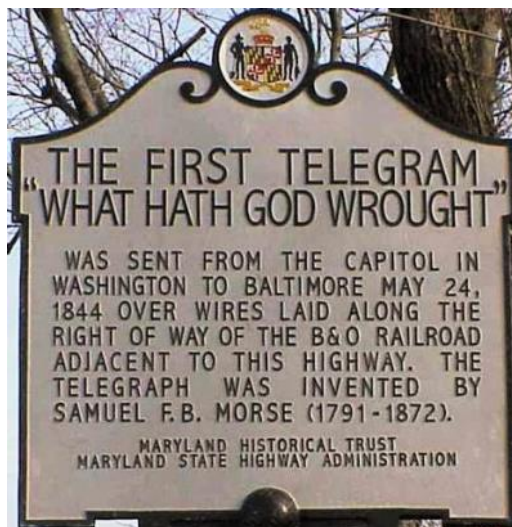
As in years past Ed has researched and generated an all new program for us. This year we will be entertained and informed on the history of the telegraph. Ed has coined the long and informative title

**"The History of the Telegraph, Mr. Morse's Code, Telegraph Keys and Things That go Dit in the Night."**



It's not very likely that Ed is a stranger to any of you reading this, but just in case; Ed is a past President of RARA, the VHF Group, and the RARRA. He is RARA's Historian and Curator Emeritus of the AWA Museum, Curator of the Parma Hilton Historical Society, and Sits on the Board of Directors of the Guelph Museum of Radio (Guelph, Ontario, Canada). Is the recipient of two international awards; the J.P. Taylor Award for The Enhancement of Television History and the Houck Award for Historical Preservation. He has been named a Fellow of the Radio Club of America and is a proud member of the A1 Operators Club. Ed, licensed for 61 years, is a DX'er who has 9 Band DXCC, sits on the ARRL Honor Roll and needs but one more country to have worked 'em all.

Don't miss this one. See you all on May 2nd!



# RARA



# BOARDZ BUZZ

DON KISER, AC2EV

So here we are in May and I've yet to turn on my radio, am I still a ham? I believe I made three contacts in 2017. As my hobbies grow I find less and less time to sit down and operate the radio. But that's ok. The world of amateur radio is so diverse that operating is only a tiny fraction of it.

There's antenna building. I spent several weekends constructing a parallel dipole in the basement and coming up with ways to evenly space the elements and keep the wire taut. I ended using a cheap plastic cutting board cut into strips and drilled to allow the wire to pass through. Then I needed a way to keep the 20m element tight on the spreader since it's the 40m element that is attached to the rope. I ended using some drill collar stop collars. The collar goes on the 40m element, then the spreader, and the 20m element is doubled back through a secondary hold in the spreader. I think it will work out pretty well. Hopefully by the time this goes to print the winter will be a fading memory. Then came Thanksgiving and Christmas which didn't allow for any mic time. There's volunteering. The week in between Christmas and New Year's was spent engaging children of all ages in the magic of electricity and magnetism at the Science Center. If you haven't tried volunteering yet you should. It's especially rewarding when you see a child's eyes light up when they start to understand the interaction of the two. It's also especially entertaining when the kids try and trip up senior CW operators who are able to tell the child what their typing out just by listening to the dits and dahs.



There's electronics. After Christmas it was time to put together some of my presents. I got an 8x8x8 LED cube that's 512 LEDs that have their legs individually bent and soldered to each other. They then get assembled into rows and then soldered onto the circuit. That was the easy part. I then opened the rest of the bags to find that that kit was



surface mount. After some encouragement from Forest (WA2MZG) and some new solder and flux I found it was actually pretty easy to do surface

mount by hand. I will admit I did have to pull out the magnifying glass and only two capacitors decided to fly out of the tweezers to be lost on the basement floor, somewhere. Godspeed little capacitor.

There's other things not directly radio related. I also restored a couple old IBM buckling spring keyboards and built a couple new ones. There's just something about that satisfying ping when you press down on the key that your \$10 Walmart rubber dome keyboard can't provide.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**WEDNESDAY MAY 2, 2018-** RARA General Meeting

7:00 PM at BSA Headquarters  
2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd

**THURSDAY MAY 3, 2018-** RARA Board of Directors

5:45 PM at Novaworks, 333 Metro Park, F-500

**SATURDAY MAY 5, 2018—**RARA Academy, Dual Band Antenna Build

10:00 AM at BSA Headquarters  
2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd

**WEDNESDAY MAY 16, 2018—**Venture Crew 73 Recruit Meeting

5:00PM AM at BSA Headquarters  
2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd

**SATURDAY JUNE 2, 2018—**Rochester Hamfest

6AM to 2PM—Hilton Exempt Club  
137 South Ave, Hilton, NY 14468

**SATURDAY JULY 14, 2018—**PICNIC

Stewart Lodge—Mendon Ponds Park

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2018—**BANQUET

Burgundy Basin Inn

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2019—**WINTERFEST

Stewart Lodge—Mendon Ponds Park





Then there's vintage equipment. February and April were spent restoring and refinishing some vintage tube equipment. Previously, I had never dealt with tubes but a colleague had given me an Eico HF-12 tube amplifier along with the build manual. It had been sitting in his basement for nearly 30 years and

looked it. After a few email exchanges with Dick Goslee (KG2I) and Jamie Oliver (KF2B) I was knee deep in the parts list finding modern day replacements for all the old carbon resistors and Electrolytic capacitors. Surprisingly it cost only about \$30 to replace it all. I disassembled the amplifier and gave it a good cleaning using electrical cleaner and de-oxid. With all the "bad" components replaced it was back to the manual to perform the startup checks. Everything looked good so I crossed my fingers, plugged it in, and turned the power switch to on. After a few moments I saw the warm glow of the tubes and the amplifier came to life. Success! The amplifier sounded very nice and there was no hum at all. Now I have a vintage tube amplifier, albeit mono, so I'm watching eBay for one to pop up for sale at a good price. What's an amplifier without a sound source? Down the rabbit hole I go to find the matching tuner.

A successful hunt on eBay netted me not one but two Eico HFT-90 FM tuners for the low price of \$20. These units were a bit rusty and dusty so a proper cleaning is under way. They didn't come with any tubes except for the DM70 tuning indicator which is shaped like an exclamation point. Since, there's nothing decent to listen to on FM I've decided I'm going to hide a small microcontroller inside that will be programmed to tune in internet radio stations. Since this was originally a kit and the schematics are available online I plan on re-using some of the original electronics. I'll patch my audio

into the in the DM70 so the "magic eye" still works and then I'll figure out a way to make the tuning knob select the internet radio stations. Perhaps a potentiometer or strategically placed sensors on the tuning dial rail. It's all about experimentation.

So there you have it. Ham radio isn't just about picking up a mic and using the radio. It's all about finding what interests you and getting others involved in your enthusiasm. What have you been up to? I'd love to hear about it at the next RARA meeting.



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Rochester, NY 14618



## FUN DOING IT

Gary Skuse, KA1NJL

NY. Here are some details. <https://hangar.aopa.org/events/item/50/1326>

This event is a club-sponsored fly in/drive in breakfast, the first of many that will be held throughout the country during the warm weather months. They have asked us if **RARA** would like to have a presence there to either raise awareness about amateur radio or to demonstrate our ability to communicate with VHF/UHF radios. When I was contacted I responded immediately with a resounding YES!! While I am not a pilot, a deficiency that many of my friends and acquaintances who are pilots often lament, I thoroughly enjoy watching airplanes fly and listening to their communications.



I am looking for volunteers to join me. At the very least I'd like to have a display promoting amateur radio in general and **RARA** in particular. If we can, I'd like to include an operating position with one or more HT's and a mobile VHF/UHF radio or two. Please let me know if you would like to participate. If you share my interest in aviation or if you enjoy telling others about our wonderful hobby it is certain to be a fun time. Please

contact me at [ka1njl@arri.net](mailto:ka1njl@arri.net) to let me know if you can join me.

# SEPTEMBER BANQUET

I know. It is barely spring. Summer is yet to come and here is an announcement about the **RARA** Banquet.

I want to give everyone time to plan to attend the banquet on Friday September 21, 2018 at the Burgundy Basin Inn.

Our guest speaker will be Jim Herbst, KC2KNJ and his presentation will be on US Coast Guard Communications. I am hoping he will throw in a little history! I grew up in Charlotte. There was a small building on the west side of the river with small towers on the north and south ends. I would really like to know what it was used for.

More details in future RAGS.

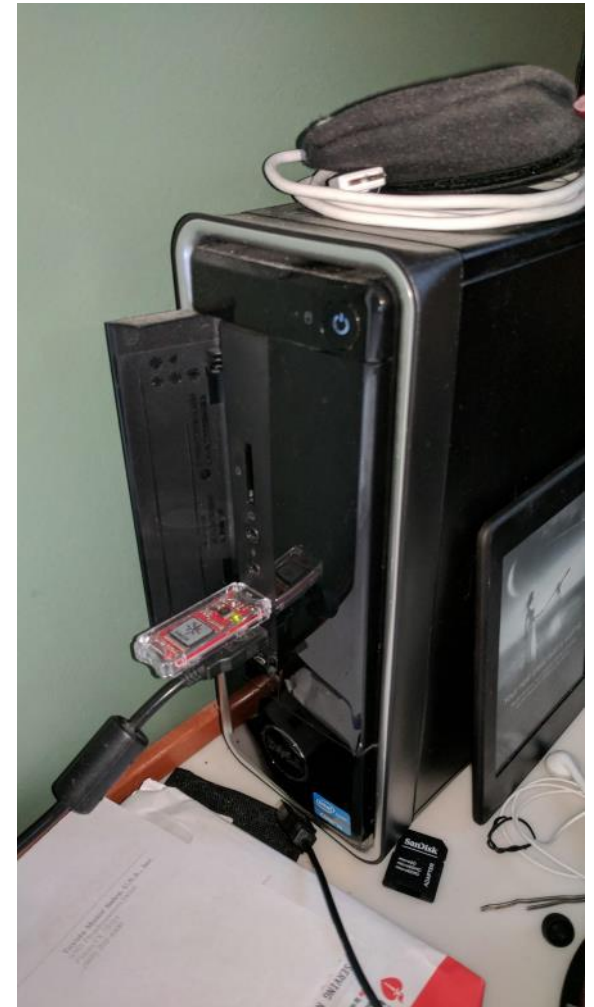
# OPERATING DIGITAL MODES FROM YOUR COMPUTER

Mike Moore, KC2NM

I have owned a Northwest Digital Radio ThumbDV for a few years. The ThumbDV is a USB stick which contains a DVSI AMBE 3000 vocoder. The ThumbDV was originally designed to fit the UDRX-440 digital radio but may be used directly with a computer to encode and decode signals on the internet for various digital modes. It works now with DSTAR, DMR, and YSF (Yaesu System Fusion). The ThumbDV is shown in the picture and is plugged into the front of my shack computer.

There are various software packages which may be used on Linux (including Raspberry Pi) and Windows. There is a DSTAR package called "Buster" which runs on a MAC. The newest software that I have found is named BlueDV for Windows and it is written by David, PA7LIM.

The sound interfaces of the PC are used as the voice I/O. I am using the microphone of a USB camera for input and the sound card speakers for output. These sources are selected using the typical windows mechanism. The BlueDV program routes the digitized audio through the ThumbDV for the selected vocoder mode (DSTAR, DMR, or YSF). The program contains the functionality needed to establish, maintain, and close the connection to the Reflectors, Talkgroups, or Rooms. As the various digital modes were developed, each had not only a unique vocoder style but each style was bundled with its own connection method. A screen shot of the BlueDV for windows software is shown below.







There is a configuration screen where you enter your callsign, DMR number, server information and serial port parameters. After that you use the slider switches to select the mode. The connection destination is selected at the top and details of the current connection is shown in the center window. The PTT switch is shown at the lower right. As I have configured it, this is only an internet connection. However, most of the points to which you will connect have radio connections so a call sign is required and proper amateur procedures should be followed.

The ThumbDV is available from [Northwest Digital Radio](#) and the cost is \$119. The BlueDV software is free and available for download. There is a lot of information about all of these products with links on the Northwest Digital Radio website and this combination gives a pretty inexpensive way to talk to the hams using the digital methods and learn something about these modes. A word about interoperability: While the various digital modes use the same vocoder device, there is no direct method of interoperability without some transcoding device. There is a new type of reflector called an [XLX Reflector](#) which combines multiple ThumbDV devices to be used to share digital audio between vocoders. Northwest Digital Radio has launched a [Kickstarter project](#) to incorporate 6 ABME 3000 decoders into a single board. This will greatly reduce the cost of building and XLX Reflector.

## THANK YOU

The hamfest is almost here which signals a slow down in club meeting activities. It is the perfect opportunities to say thank you to a few behind the scenes members who help make our meetings a success.

Meeting Audio—Brad Allen—Thank you for your efforts to make our meetings and presentations a success.

Kelly Nichols and Robert Mac Donald—Thank you for the coffee and donuts.

## 2018 RARA ACADEMY

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, Education Coordinator  
[https://www.rochesterham.org/rara\\_academy.htm](https://www.rochesterham.org/rara_academy.htm)

### Upcoming Academy Workshops:

Workshops will be held at BSA Headquarters at 2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd, 10AM to noon.

### May 5th ANTENNA BUILDING

This Academy workshop will be a hands on antenna building session.

We will build a dual band 20/15 meter HF dipole antenna.

Class size is limited. **THERE ARE 4 SLOTS STILL AVAILABLE**

The cost of antenna parts is \$25 which must be paid at the workshop.

Checks should be made out to RARA.

Register for the class by emailing [education@rochesterham.org](mailto:education@rochesterham.org).

John Viggiano NV2K, Gary Skuse KA1NJL and Jon Arney WB3LHI will be the leads for this workshop.



## Lincon Web says “Click This”

### CLUBS

[Denver Radio Club](#)  
[Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club](#)  
[Radio Society of Great Britain](#)  
[Warminster Amateur Radio Club](#)

### STORES

[MFJ Enterprise](#)  
[DX Engineering](#)  
[Ham Radio Outlet](#)  
[Universal Radio](#)

### SOFTWARE

[Quisk](#)

### SDR

[IQ Modulator Basics](#)

This Academy workshop will be a hands on soldering session.

PC boards, wires and components will be supplied to practice your soldering and de-soldering skills

If you have your own kit, we can give you kit building pointers but this session will NOT focus on kit building.

[illegible]

We will supply a few soldering irons but suggest participants bring their own irons, 60/40 solder and hand tools if they have them.

Class size is limited to 12 participants.

Register for the class at the RA-RA meeting or by emailing [edu-  
cation@rochesterham.org](mailto:education@rochesterham.org).

Scott Theis W2LW and Tim Brown WB2PAY will be the leads for this workshop.

Visit [https://www.rochesterham.org/rara\\_academy\\_2018-06.htm](https://www.rochesterham.org/rara_academy_2018-06.htm) for course information and suggested practice projects

Mike Moore, KC2NM, **RARA** Public Service Coordinator

The American Diabetes Association (ADA) Tour de Cure starts and ends in the Xerox Campus in Webster on Saturday June 9. It runs from 6AM to 4:30PM. To sign up to help with Tour de Cure go to the Public Service Menu at the RARA Website [http://rochesterham.org/public\\_service.htm](http://rochesterham.org/public_service.htm). There you can click on the ADA Tour de Cure “Sign Up” link on the right hand side of the page. This link leads to a Google Form for you to register your sign up information. We will guard your personal information and see that it is used only as needed by the event organizers. You will only be identified using your FCC Callsign and first name. Please complete the form and hit “Submit”. You will receive a confirmation email with instructions about radio programming. We are given pick-up trucks to use for the event and I would encourage you to opt to use one of these brand new vehicles. This sure to add to your fun! There is also a link for event

information which will allow you to see the routes and get more information. If you prefer, you may sign up by contacting the event captain, Mike Moore



KC2NM directly via email at [mikemoore@ieee.org](mailto:mikemoore@ieee.org).

Tour de Cure is a bicycle ride with several routes. There are 12, 25, 40, 62, and 100 mile routes which follow Lake Rd East from Xerox and then loop back to the finish. All routes feature beautiful lakefront views and travel through small towns of Wayne and Monroe Counties. If you have non-ham family members who would like to participate, we can use them as phone operators and there are many other volunteer opportunities. Teams compete in this ride and obtain sponsorships for donations to the efforts of the ADA which has as its mission to prevent and cure diabetes and to improve the lives of all those with diabetes. This is a very important event for our community. This year's Rochester goal is to have 118 teams competing with 1443 riders to raise \$1,080,000! Through the efforts of volunteers such as yourselves, the 2017 Tour de Cure was the most successful in the US.

**RARA** provides primary communications for this event with sweep operators driving on the course who identify problems on the course and communicate with net control at the command center using mobile radios. SAG (Support and Gear) vehicles can help riders with minor mechanical problems or transport them to rest stops where mechanical help is available. Net Control is located at the command center and coordinates communications using Amateur Radio volunteers and with telephone operators from the ADA. Hams are needed for sweep, SAG, and Net Control Operations. This event is a chance for us to hone our skills as radio operators in a setting which provides real help to our community. Please consider signing up to help as soon as you can so that we can communicate the route information and other needs. Please mark you calendars for a training and safety meeting (with sandwiches) to be held on the evening of Mon May 21, 2018 6:15pm – 8pm at the Webster Recreation Center **1350 Chiyoda Drive, Webster** . Also, please look at the following future public service activities and think about how you can help.



# ROCHESTER HAMFEST 2018

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018

6AM TO 2PM

HILTON EXEMPT CLUB

137 SOUTH AVE

HILTON, NEW YORK 14468

It's official, the 91st Rochester Hamfest will be happening on June 2nd, 2018 at the Hilton Exempt Club, **137 South Ave. Hilton, NY 14468** from 7am to 2pm. Vendors may enter at 6am. Access from the East and West via Rt. 90 and from the south via Rt. 390. (Detailed directions will be in the Hamfest edition of the RAG) We've got plenty of space this year and we are excited to host you and your friends for another great hamfest!

Great news!

We have confirmed breakfast and lunch vendors, so come hungry.

Breakfast:

Hot breakfast foods, and of course coffee from Tech Logistics & Svcs.

Lunch:

Grill favorites and sides from Todd Verno of Verno On The Roll



Making this event a success requires your help.

E-mail: [hfproducer@rochesterham.org](mailto:hfproducer@rochesterham.org) if you can help in any way. Leading up to the event, we could use some help in the following areas:

- Publicity
- Recruiting additional volunteers for the event
- Planning traffic management

Keep your eyes on the website <https://www.rochesterham.org/hamfest.htm> for updates.



## PUBLIC SERVICE CALENDAR

Tour de Cure	Xerox Corp. Webster, NY	Saturday	June 10
Bike MS: ROC the Ride	Genesee Valley Park - Roch-	Saturday	August 25
Fairport Lift Bridge Re-	Erie Canal – Fairport, NY	Sunday	September 30
Jamboree on the Air	BSA Camp Babcock-Hovey Ovid, NY	Friday - Saturday	October 19-20
Pumpkin Patrol	Overpasses of the New York State Thruway	Tuesday & Wednesday	October 30-31
Holiday Science & Technology Days	Rochester Museum & Science Center	Wednesday - Saturday	December 26-29

XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB | XARC | W2XRX

## ANNUAL XARC SPRING FOX HUNT

SATURDAY | MAY 12

Join us for a fun morning outdoors! You will learn tips and tricks on how to find a hidden transmitter with your ham buddies! Everyone is welcome—an amateur license is not required. We typically work in teams and a vehicle is very helpful for zeroing in on the transmitting fox. We will meet for lunch following the hunt.

**THE HUNT**  
The foxes will be hidden in various public places on the east side of town

**THE MISSION**

- 1 Dial in the channel for the fox.
- 2 Find the fox.
- 3 Grab the tag with the lowest number and the frequency for the next fox.
- 4 Repeat!

**The team with the lowest score wins the hunt!**

Saturday May 12  
Registration: 9:00 am  
Hunt Begins: 9:30 am

Meeting at the Wegmans  
parking lot on Holt Road,  
Webster, NY

Talk In Channel:  
145.29 XARC Repeater  
(110.9PL)

RSVP to Co-Hunt-master: Paul Kurrasch | KC2GTO | [kc2gto@gmail.com](mailto:kc2gto@gmail.com) | 585.645.2138  
Please RSVP with your call sign and cell phone number so that we can update you if there are any last minute changes.

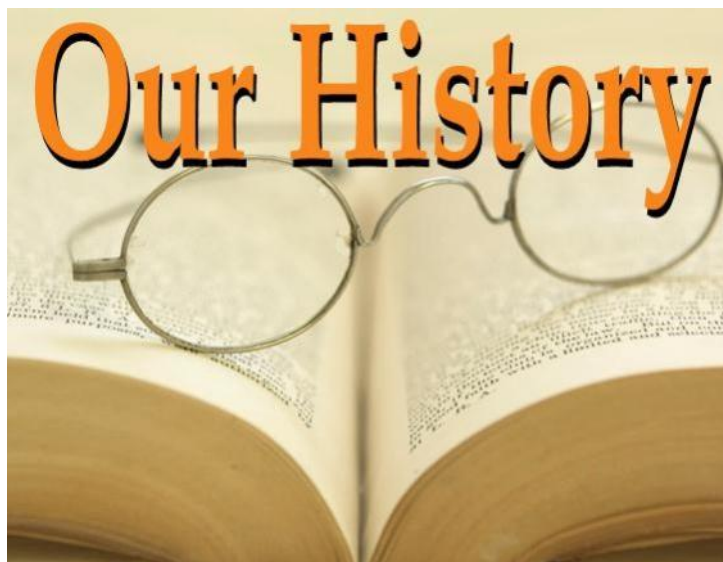
# RAGS OF THE PAST

ED GABLE, K2MP, RARA HISTORIAN



40 Years Ago, May 1978

VP and program chairman Ed Gable, K2MP, announced RARA's Annual Business meeting will be the next club affair. At that time members will elect officers, elect a Board of Directors and determine the dues structure for 1978/79. A complete biographical list of nominees was included in this issue. At that time club meetings were held at the Monroe County Farm and Home Center on Highland Avenue. Tickets for the near future May 19<sup>th</sup> Hamfest are now on sale or you can pick them up at JR's Amateur Radio store, 3327 Lake Avenue, said Hamfest chairman Harold Smith, K2HC. Also reported is a late speaker for the hamfest, a much liked and respected editor of Ham Radio and Ham Radio Horizons magazines, Mr. Jim Fisk, W1HR. Jim's presentation centered on getting on-the-air using inexpensive equipment. Area old timer Linc Cundall, W2QY, wrote to inform and invite everyone to the AWA Spring Meet held at the AWA Museum and the Locust Lodge on May 13<sup>th</sup>. In a similar fashion, Ray Leigh, W2SNI, from the RDXA, invited all to attend the DX forum at the Hamfest where they have arranged to have Mr. Vic Ulrich, President of the NJ DX Association and head of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District QSL Bureau, to speak. From the Want Ads we found a rare "Wanted" ad where Jerry Vogt, WA2GCF, from Hamtronics, was looking to find electronic assemblers. On the For Sale side was Joe Marsey, N2JM, who was having an "everything goes" moving sale. A new first time commercial advertiser was 2001 Microsystems, 1948 Ridge Road West, offering "affordable solutions" to Word Processing, Accounting, and more.



20 Years Ago, May 1998

"Old Timer's Night" hosted by Ed Gable K2MP, was how VP and Program Chairman Rick Wells, W2RW, started this RARA Rag. That sounds familiar somehow. It was this year, 1998, that the RARA historian and co-founder of the Antique Wireless Association, Bruce Kelley W2ICE, passed away. Ed's program for this evening was on early amateur licensing requirements, amateur call signs over the years and vintage QSL cards. After twelve years of service the RARA Rag editor, Neal Eckhardt, WB2EKP, announced his retirement effective immediately. Thankfully RARA has always had in its membership ranks a cadre of willing and ready members to jump in and do what needs to be done. In this case, George Platteter, AA2FO, has accepted the position and with red pencil in hand is all set to go. George, previously RARA's License Testing Director, member of RACES and a volunteer at the AWA Museum, was well suited for the task. George also had a very helpful Managing

Editor, Dick Goslee K2VCZ, to help out. This issue had the final, Part V, edition of Lloyd Cave's, WB2EFU, articles on Hamfest programming. Listed was a day by day, hour by hour schedule of the sixteen scheduled programs. The RARA Nominating Committee, consisting of Chmn Bob Hobday N2EVG, John Woika W8JW and Ed Gable K2MP, listed their slate of officers for the following year. As normal, the nominees' biographies were printed as well. Jack Tripp, N2SNL, penned a very nice article reporting on the annual Science Fair at St. John Fisher College. Participating were RARA, Harris/RF, AWA, RG and E, and many others entertaining four to five thousand students from area high schools. And now, after 20 years has gone by, the rest of the story. In the large, high auditorium, the RG and E delighted visitors with a radio controlled blimp gently flying overhead. One mischievous person at the AWA booth discovered that when he keyed their live spark transmitter the blimp's rudder went full right and could do nothing but go around in circles despite feverous activity at the RG and E booth.. I won't say who that was... except he can type that event completely from memory! There were no Silent Keys reported in this issue but from the Want Ads you could buy an ICOM IC-751A from Len Gessin, WA2ZNC. Sherwood Snyder, W2KFU, Attorney At Law, remained a long term commercial advertiser who often did pro-bono work for local radio clubs.



# VE TEAM

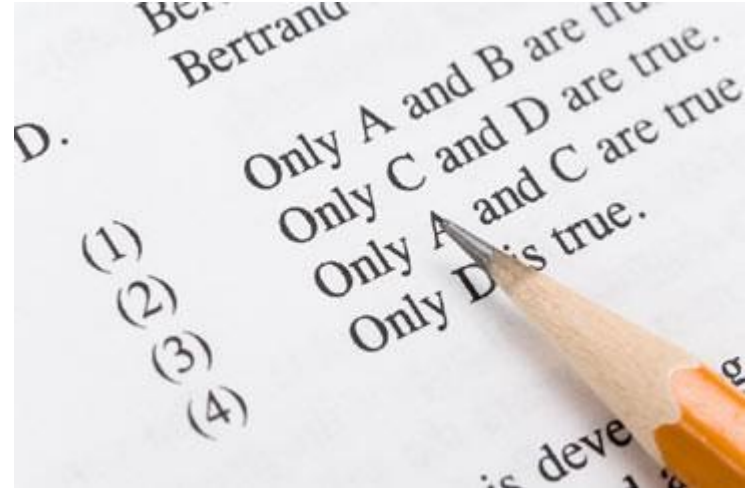
The next **ALWAYS FREE** testing session:  
Will be held on Saturday June 2nd at the Rochester Hamfest

You do not have to preregister.

To avoid giving your SSN go to:  
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>  
Register and bring the resultant FRN.

For more info:  
<https://www.laurelvec.com/?team=RARA>

Don Kiser - AC2EV  
RARA Board member  
VE Team Leader  
585-613-1035



Benjamin Ackerman	KD2JLB	G	<b>John Sentiff</b>	KD2PQM	G
<b>Michael Corrigan</b>	KD2PQA	T	<b>Richard Stowe</b>	KD2PQN	T
<b>John Gruschow</b>	KD2PQB	T	<b>Grace Waddy</b>	KD2PQO	T
<b>Dylan Schaible</b>	KD2PQC	T	<b>Jeffrey Ambroz</b>	KD2PQP	T
<b>Daniel Kennedy</b>	KD2PQD	T	<b>Christopher Belt</b>	KD2PQQ	T
<b>Maggie Strong</b>	KD2PQE	T	<b>Daniel Clocksin</b>	KD2PQR	T
<b>Ronald Schmid</b>	KD2PQF	T	<b>Sean Hunt</b>	KD2PQS	T
<b>Howard Hunt</b>	KD2PQG	T	Eric Nolting	KM4SLE	G
<b>Alexander Ceci</b>	KD2PQI	T	<b>James Burroughs</b>	KN4LSL	T

New licensees names are in BOLD

# RaRa CALENDAR

Tim Barrett, K9VB

May 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> Phone Fray	<b>2</b> RaRa Monthly Mtg 7:00pm, BSA HQ, Brighton Henrietta TLR  ROC City Net 8:00pm 3.826 MHz  Wops Mini-CWT Test	<b>3</b> RaRa BoD Meeting 5:45pm Nova-works 333 Metro Park Rochester 14623  ARES Net 146.61 MHz 7pm S KCC Sprint Europe NCCC Sprint	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> AWA Spring Meet Araucaria World Wide VHF Contest 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up Microwave Spring Sprint ARI International DX Contest 7 Call Area, IN, DE, NE QSO Pties FISTS Spring Slow Speed Sprint
<b>6</b> Araucaria World Wide VHF Contest 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW SBMS 2.3 GHz and Up ARI International DX Contest 7 Call Area, IN, DE, NE QSO Pties	<b>7</b> RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	<b>8</b> Phone Fray ARS Spartan Sprint	<b>9</b> ROC City Net 8:00pm 3.826 MHz  CWops Mini-CWT Test	<b>10</b> ARES Net 146.61 MHz 7pm  NCCC Sprint	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> AWA Museum Open 1pm - 5pm SKCC Weekend Sprintathon VOLTA WW RTTY Contest CQ-M International DX Contest AR QSO Party FISTS Spring Unlimited Sprint 50 MHz Spring Sprint WAB 7 MHz Phone
<b>13</b> SKCC Weekend Sprintathon VOLTA WW RTTY Contest CQ-M International DX Contest AR QSO Party 50 MHz Spring Sprint	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> RDXA 7:30pm SIARC 7:30pm  Phone Fray	<b>16</b> ROC City Net 8:00pm 3.826 MHz  CWops Mini-CWT Test RSGB 80m Club Champ, Data	<b>17</b> ARES Net 146.61 MHz 7pm  NCCC Sprint	<b>18</b> Dayton Hamvention  Portuguese Navy Day Contest Slobzhansky Sprint Contest	<b>19</b> AWA Museum Open 1pm - 5pm Dayton Hamvention Portuguese Navy Day Contest UN DX Contest NZART Sangster Shield Contest Aegean RTTY Contest EU PSK DX Contest King of Spain Contest, CW Feld Hell Sprint
<b>20</b> Dayton Hamvention Portuguese Navy Day Contest Aegean RTTY Contest EU PSK DX Contest King of Spain Contest, CW	<b>21</b> Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	<b>22</b> Phone Fray	<b>23</b> ROC City Net 8:00pm 3.826 MHz  CWops Mini-CWT Test	<b>24</b> Monroe Cty ARES 6pm, Red Cross Center, Prince St  NCCC Sprint RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> AWA Museum Open 1pm - 5pm CQ WW WPX Contest, CW
<b>27</b> CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	<b>28</b> QRP ARCI Hootowl Sprint	<b>29</b> Phone Fray	<b>30</b> ROC City Net 8:00pm 3.826 MHz CWops Mini-CWT Test	<b>31</b> ARES Net 146.61 MHz 7pm NCCC Sprint		



# NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

## MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES News

The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend.

The next ARES Meeting will be held on: **Thursday, May 24, 2018, at 6:00 PM.**

Meetings are held at the **Greater Rochester Chapter of the American Red Cross HQ, 50 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.** (Located behind the Rochester Auditorium Theatre, 885 Main St. E.)

### ARES NET:

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm, on the 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL repeater. The only exception to that are nights when we hold our regular meeting, generally on the 4th Thursday of the month.

**WEB:** [www.monroecountymcomm.org](http://www.monroecountymcomm.org)

### Severe Weather Alerts:

Winter brings severe weather in the form of heavy snow and strong winds. If you experience severe weather, especially when accompanied by damage to property in your area, listen to your local ARES/RACES repeaters for information. While official ARES/RACES activation could be a possibility, it is more important that we open a spontaneous net simply to share information about weather conditions in your immediate area. Don't wait for someone else to do it. Pick up the microphone and start a net. Have each check-in station give you a situational awareness report and emergency power report. If you don't have a copy of the directed net protocol, you can find one at the WEB address listed above. (Activities/ARES Net/ Net Script/ Downloads )

### NBEMS:

Want to learn about Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS)? It's the latest and easiest way to "Go Digital!" Bring your laptop computer and 2-M handheld transceiver. We will conduct an NBEMS clinic after every meeting through June 2018.



## ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

RDXA meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month (September through May) except for December, which is the Annual Holiday Banquet. Meetings are open to everyone and all are encouraged to attend.



Meetings are held at the Monroe County EOC 1190 Scottsville Rd. (second floor), Rochester, NY 14624 at 7:30PM.

## ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRA invites you to attend its May 18, 2018 meeting. Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month in the Pittsford Town Hall Basement starting at 7:30 PM.

No program was determined when this article was written. For more information visit [www.k2rra.org](http://www.k2rra.org) where late breaking news will be presented.

RRRA will be taking nominations for board members. Without board members RRRA will lose its non profit status and will have to go out of business. Please consider volunteering to become an officer of RRRA. This club can't exist without members .

The RRRA officers are Bob Shewell, N2HJD President, Bob ODell, N2BZX Vice President, ED Wilkonski, KC2WM Secretary, and Bob Smith, NS2B-Treasurer / Membership Chairman. RRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site [www.k2rra.org](http://www.k2rra.org)

## ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

The Rochester VHF Group sponsors an informal On-Air Net every Monday at 2100 local time on 144.260 MHz USB and a 6 Meter Net every Thursday at 2100 local on 50.200 MHz USB.

More club information can be found by visiting [www.rvhfg.org](http://www.rvhfg.org) or just calling in any Monday or Thursday night. All are welcome to check in to these nets.

## XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The May meeting of the XRX Amateur Radio Club will be Thursday May 10 at 6PM at the Webster Recreation Association. Besides the usual fun stuff, Steve KA1CNF will be giving a talk about how to set up your own System Fusion Wires-X node.

Also, on Saturday morning May 12, we will be having a Fox Hunt. Details are

still being planned on the starting place and time (usually 9-9:30AM), so check our website at <http://xarc.us> in the next couple of weeks. The hunt will be on various frequencies on the 2 meter band. We usually have several teams with various levels of experience and equipment, and there may be opportunities to team up with others if you want to work with someone who knows the ropes. We always have fun, especially at the lunch afterwards describing where it all went wrong! Check our website at <http://xarc.us> for the latest info.

## SQUAW ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Squaw Island Amateur Radio Club (SIARC) meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 9th. There will be License Exam Testing starting at 6:30PM. 73's Steve Benton VP SIARC WB2VMR

## AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Town & Country Firehouse on Gardner Road in Horseheads, New York. Chemung County ARES (CCARES) meets the first Tuesday of the month except February at Harris Hill. See [www.ccares.info](http://www.ccares.info) for meeting details. CCARES covers the entire area in Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties and everyone is welcome.

On April 14, 2018 we participated in the Twin Tiers Maker Faire at the Arnot Mall in Horseheads for the first time. A highlight was a demonstration of Echolink with HB9FRV and WA3ABF, who reached while hiking on a Swiss mountaintop. Quite a few of our members were on hand to explain amateur radio to the public. We also used the event to invite the public to our Field Day event in June. This will be the last time that we'll be using Cabin 5 at Harris Hill, located next to the National Soaring Museum and the glider field, for Field Day. For anyone who has never been to Harris Hill, this is a beautiful site overlooking the Chemung Valley. Recreational and picnic facilities for the family are nearby.

We expect to announce exact hours for Field Day in June's RARA Rag.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for next year's hamfest on September 29, 2018 at the Chemung County Fairgrounds in Horseheads, NY. Tickets will be available from any board member and online at our website as we get closer to the venue date.

We also need communicators for the 2018 Wineglass Marathon. The date has been set for the Sunday following the Hamfest (September 30, 2018). If you can help out, contact the Emergency Coordinator at [emergencycoordinator@stny.rr.com](mailto:emergencycoordinator@stny.rr.com) as soon as you can. EMO needs to be notified about who will be participating.

Our new website is undergoing construction and is almost complete. Check it

out at [www.arast.info](http://www.arast.info).

Also, don't forget to check out our repeaters when you visit our area: The N3AQ 147.36(+); and W2ZJ 146.70(-) are the principal ARAST repeaters on 2 meters. A full list of all the repeaters that can be heard in Chemung County New York and neighboring areas of Pennsylvania can be found at [http://www.arast.info/arast\\_website/public/repeaters.php](http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/repeaters.php)

## COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7pm. Each meeting has a brief training/refresher period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9pm (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30pm on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in! Take a look at the club website for more info: [www.k2srv.org](http://www.k2srv.org)

## DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communications modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and public [DSTAR hotspots](#) (using the dvprtr board), Yaesu fusion systems on non-club repeaters and DMR. The last mode is being enjoyed locally through a [DV-Mega-Raspberry PI](#) combination. DCAP meets for breakfast at 7am nearly every Saturday morning at [Rikki's Family Restaurant](#) in Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL of 110.9 Hz.

## WESTSIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The mission of the Westside Amateur Radio Club is to provide emergency communications services to the community, to assist other civic organizations, to promote the technical craft of amateur radio through class training and testing, to mentor new members, and enhance fellowship among radio amateurs.

The Westside Amateur Radio Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month, 7PM, at the Chili Public Library. The Library is located at 3333 Chili Ave, Rochester, NY 14624.

The talk in repeater for all meetings is the WR2AHL Repeater 146.760MHz - 110.9. AllStar, Echolink, and web streaming connections are available. Website: <http://WestsideAmateurRadio.club>



## INTERLOCK ROCHESTER - K2HAX - ROCHESTER'S HACKERSPACE

Interlock Rochester is open most every Tuesday night at 7pm. We're in the Hungerford Building (1115 East Main Street, Rochester NY), just north of Village Gate. Come to Door #7 (to the left of Comics Etc) and buzz Suite 200. Want to know more? Visit our website at <http://www.interlockroc.org/>, contact us at [info@interlockroc.org](mailto:info@interlockroc.org), or find us in #interlock on Freenode IRC.

## GENESEE VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

2018 Meeting and Testing Schedule

Testing Schedule:

Saturday, May 19, 2018 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

\*\*\* Saturday, June 23, 2018 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (Field Location, please call for location)

Saturday, September 15, 2018 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Saturday, October 20, 2018 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Meetings to follow after testing.

Location -

Brick Presbyterian Church

6 Church St.

Perry, NY 14530

\*\*\* PLEASE note that the Field day location is To Be Determined

Email [n3dsp@lafireline.net](mailto:n3dsp@lafireline.net) for details.

## ROCHESTER MAKERSPACE

The Rochester Makerspace is located at the rear of 850 St. Paul Street in almost 4,000 square feet of workspace. We are a volunteer-run 501c(3) nonprofit organization and our mission is to encourage learning, creativity and collaboration. We do that by providing low-cost and free access to sophisticated tools, offering a wide variety of classes, and by providing opportunities for "makers," artists and crafts persons of all kinds to meet and learn from each other.

Drop in to explore, learn and make at our weekly open house:

Every Thursday Night, 6 to 10 PM – Weekly Community Night & Open House

Every Saturday, 11 AM to 3 PM – Weekly Community & Open House

Park in the lot at Scrantom St. and Conkey Ave. and follow the signs.

Every Thursday Night, 7 to 9:30 PM – Microcontrollers & Robotics Meetup

A ham bench is set up with a 2 meter FM radio and a laptop with WebSDR. Waiting for nicer weather to install outside antennas for the Heathkit HW101 transceiver and Kenwood all mode 2 meter transceiver. Donations of ham equipment accepted.

For more information visit [Rochestermakerspace.org](http://Rochestermakerspace.org)

## ASTRONOMY SECTION ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

For more information visit <http://www.rocheasterastronomy.org/>

## THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

### THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

<b>CONSIDERATE</b>	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
<b>LOYAL</b>	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
<b>PROGRESSIVE</b>	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
<b>FRIENDLY</b>	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
<b>BALANCED</b>	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
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# RARA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COORDINATORS

## OFFICERS

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<b>Hamfest Co-Producers</b>	Tim Guyot, KB1POP Mike Kolstee, KD2IZQ Mike Moore, KC2NM	<a href="mailto:timguyot@gmail.com">timguyot@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:mckolst@yahoo.com">mckolst@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:mikemoore@ieee.org">mikemoore@ieee.org</a>	<b>RARA RAG Editor</b>	Forest Shick, WA2MZG Dawn Lepard, KC2VJU	<a href="mailto:editor@rochesterham.org">editor@rochesterham.org</a> <a href="mailto:dawn@lepard.ca">dawn@lepard.ca</a>
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## JUNE RAG DEADLINE

**MAY 15, 2018**



**RARA meets at 7PM on the  
first **Wednesday** of each month. Join  
us at:**

**Seneca Waterways Council, BSA Headquarters  
2320 Brighton Henrietta Town Line Rd  
Rochester, New York 14623**

**Get Directions**

**Rochester Area Repeater Listing**

## **THE RARA RAG**

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